

Mrs. Black decided that her students needed to go on a field trip to the farm. Mrs. Black and her students lived in a big city. They did not have a chance to go to the country very often. The students were excited about their chance to go to a farm.

Early on a Monday morning, Mrs. Black and her students climbed onto the school bus, one by one. The driver took off and drove over the big bridge that led to a country road. The students were happy to be out of the city. The sky was a clear blue. There was no sign of the dirty smog that hung over the city. As the bus drove down the winding road, the students noticed the fields of grass with cows and horses grazing. They noticed the weeds and flowers that lined the sides of the road. All of the things they saw were so different from the tall buildings and wire fences at home.

Finally the students arrived at the farm. The bus drove through a white wooden gate and pulled up in front of a big barn. Mrs. Black got out of the bus first and went up to hug her Uncle Ernie who owned the farm. Uncle Ernie stepped onto the bus before the students got off. He said, "I'm glad to have all of you here on the farm. I want you to have a good time, but you must stay next to Mrs. Black and not wander away."

The first place Uncle Ernie took the class was to the pigpen. The kids leaned against the rail fence and watched the pigs roll around in the mud and grunt as they looked for food. The pigs looked so funny with their fat, pink noses and little curly tails.

Billy, one of the students, leaned way over the rail to look at the pigs. Before anyone noticed, he had tumbled over the fence into the pigpen! Uncle Ernie jumped in after Billy and pulled him up out of the

mud. "Didn't I tell you kids not to wander away?" Uncle Ernie said as he lifted Billy back over the fence. "Now, I mean what I say. You kids stay next to us and do not go off on your own," Uncle Ernie said.

The kids next went to the barn where the cows stayed, with Billy trailing along behind. When they got to the cow barn, they watched in surprise while Uncle Ernie milked a cow. They watched the milk stream into a pail, and the cow's tail swishing back and forth. Meanwhile, Billy had come up to join the group. The mud from the pigpen had dried on his clothes.

Billy watched the milk stream into the pail and decided that he would like to try to milk the cow, too. Billy knelt down next to Uncle Ernie in the dust. Mrs. Black noticed Billy and began to call out when, suddenly; the cow's tail went swish, right up into Billy's face. Billy jumped back, holding his stinging face. "That's it," said Uncle Ernie. "You are going back to the bus." Mrs. Black took Billy back to the bus and scolded him for getting in the way. The rest of the students had a fun time riding a horse and feeding the chickens, but Billy had to stay behind. He felt very sorry for not listening to Uncle Ernie.

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